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IN INSULAR POSSESSIONS.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Cholera—Plague—Manila.

The following information has been received from Asst. Surg. Duffy, of the United States Public Health Service, acting chief quarantine officer for the Philippine Islands: For the week ended July 18, 1914, quarantinable diseases were reported as having occurred in Manila, as follows: Cholera, 14 cases, 13 deaths; plague, 1 case, 1 death.

The reappearance of cholera in Manila reported for the previous week was confined to a few sporadic cases, but this week cholera occurred in a number of widely scattered sections of the city.

One case occurred on a sailing vessel berthed in the river. When the stool examinations of the contacts were completed it was discovered that the American master of the vessel was a cholera carrier.

The bureau of health is taking every possible precaution, and circulars have been issued giving instructions as to the methods to be used for the prevention and cure of the disease, as well as the use of sterilized water and washing of hands before eating.

It is significant that again a Japanese fisherman was among the first few cases of cholera to be found, as has been the case in every cholera outbreak in the past five years.

Rat Campaign.

Manila is to have a "rat day." A simultaneous effort to poison all the rats on the north side of the Pasig River is to be inaugurated by poison being placed in every house in the section on the same day. Work on this plan has been in progress for weeks. Poison relief stations where antidotal measures can be immediately taken have been established and their location published far ahead so that all may know the nearest place to go if accidentally poisoned. Arsenic is the poison to be used. Other foodstuffs are being carefully removed in order that as complete a clean-up as is possible may result by having the rats eager for food.